



Fact Sheet #3: Road-Related Stormwater Management

Vermont's Clean Water Initiative

Taking Action to Restore Local Streams and Lake Champlain

Vermonters love Lake Champlain and the streams that flow into it. Clean water and a restored Lake Champlain are critical economic assets for the region and an essential legacy for Vermont's future generations.

The state of Vermont and its partners have been working for decades to reduce phosphorus pollution to Lake Champlain. However, more needs to be done to restore a clean Lake Champlain, and it needs to happen at the source of the pollution; eroded soil and runoff from parking lots, roads, farm fields, barnyards, stream banks, logging roads, and wastewater discharges all contain phosphorous pollution.

The state's Clean Water Initiative is an innovative strategy for restoring Lake Champlain and its tributaries. The Initiative is a call to action for everyone to get involved, including municipalities, farmers, loggers, and landowners. Many of the proposed changes are simple and cost-effective. Working together, we can restore and maintain healthy local streams and ultimately Lake Champlain.

This factsheet summarizes actions to reduce road-related sources of phosphorus. See Factsheet #2 for information on reducing phosphorus pollution from stormwater runoff from all other impervious surfaces, such as parking lots. See other factsheets that describe actions to reduce phosphorus from other sources.

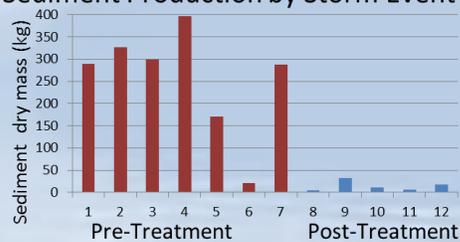


Eroding roadside ditch



Ditch stabilization saves road repairs and reduces erosion

Sediment Production by Storm Event



UVM study demonstrates effectiveness of road management practices in reducing erosion. (Wemble, 2013)

Actions to Reduce Road-Related Stormwater Sources of Phosphorus Pollution:

- Reduce erosion and stormwater discharges being generated from state-managed highways;
- Reduce erosion and stormwater discharges being generated from municipal roads;
- Support municipalities in conducting road inventories that identify and prioritize critical areas in need of erosion and sediment control;
- Increase support and funding for municipalities in implementing practices that improve the resilience of local roads to flooding while minimizing erosion and stormwater runoff discharging into streams.

